

THE

CREATURE

STAR
COMICS NO.1



61874 Taylor S.
AVOID
STEVENS
1974

The

Number

ONE

CREATURE

THE CREATURE — CARL W. TAYLOR — 4/15/74. Published irregularly.
NO SUBSCRIPTIONS! ULTRASCOPIK series A-Z.

Welcome to the first issue of the Creature. This is my first fanzine effort, and the creature is just one of 40 ideas I've had for a fanzine comic character; mostly the others were superheroes, so I thought as a change of pace I'd use one of the most different ones. Occult stories have always interested me, but PROcomics in most cases have fallen short of what I feel a good sorcery story should be; KIRBY'S DEMON, LEE & DITKO'S and BRUNNER'S DR. STRANGE; and CONAN were perfect! Roy Thomas plays up the savage elements in Conan, (which is fine with me) rather than the magical ones. In the direction of sorcery I'll say that Conan is good, the Demon was better, and Dr. Strange is the best; the Demon would be tied, but after the sixth issue the book seemed to get less and less mysterious as the Demon's savagery was played down. I think the book would still be with us today, if Kirby would've made the Demon mysterious like batman but savage like the mangog. Now I'm not going to pattern the creature after Batman and Mangog, but I am going to try and make him more savage and mysterious than the professional comics can. Usually I contribute illoes and strips to other zines; and (with the exception of Paul Legrazie's (now defunct) fanzines, Journey into comics etc.) I've usually conformed to someone else's idea of what pro art is suppose to look like, or draw someone else's stories. Well now I have (at last) TOTAL FREEDOM NO COMICS CODE, OR KNOW IT ALL FANZINE EDITORS, WHO BECAUSE OF A FEW PROFESSIONAL CONNECTIONS, ACT LIKE THEY'RE ART DIRECTORS FOR MARVEL OR NATIONAL COMICS, AND BY CONTRIBUTING TO THEIR ZINES YOU'LL LAND PRO EMPLOYMENT. Nope none of that (expletive deleted). Now while I can't say if the story or art is any better inspite of them... I CAN say I've had more fun doing it.

Hope you enjoy it too!! *Carl Taylor* Carl W. Taylor

The above was typed up around mid '74,..alot has changed since then. I had forgot to mention that I thought Swampthing and Manthing are good and that it's just most of the continued sorcery stories that aren't as creative as they could be. There have always been great singular stories from all the companies, Warren, Marvel, DC, etc. Fanzines and their editors have finally done what they've wanted to do since I started contributing for free back in '71, stop me from contributing; so I'm going to be exclusive now; Instead of sending out my art to every zine I can, I'm going to charge all except the zine editors I feel have been fair AND are friends. So CPL, Epoch, Fan Flight, Corrigan Comics, PPFSZT, etc; REST!! Carl Taylor won't bug you anymore! Onward... I've been influenced by Kane and Kirby alot, BUT as well I've been influenced by ADAMS, DITKO and '66 to '70 Colon, and NON COMICS pros like George B. Bridgeman. I don't SWIPE!! I don't need to. I've redone some of the pages of this '73 project; write me and let me know what you think of it okay? later watergaters.

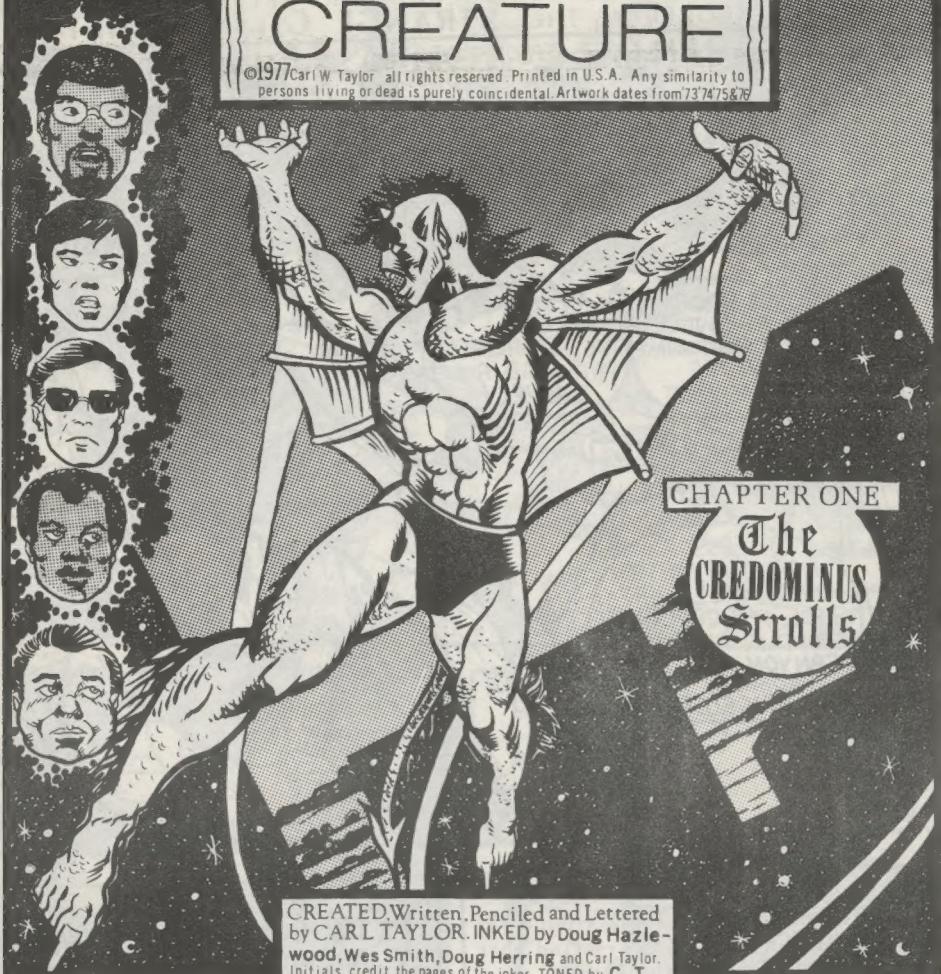
CARLCOMICS ISN'T STOPPING HERE!!!

THERE WILL BE MORE! other than
the creature!!!

The

CREATURE

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CREATED Written, Penciled and Lettered
by CARL TAYLOR. INKED by Doug Hazle-
wood, Wes Smith, Doug Herring and Carl Taylor.
Initials credit the pages of the inker. TONED by C. T.

50¢

This story begins with KEITH EDDRICKS (professor and scoffed archaeologist) about to DISCOVER something which will CHANGE his life and the lives of BRIAN LEE, his top student, and (former students now shrewd business men) RYAN MASON, BILL JOHNSON and CHARLES FRANKLIN. They will learn the reality of MYSTIC POWER! This story starts NOW...



WHAT IS IT
KEITH? A
ANCIENT TOOL
PROVING YOUR
THEORIES?

BETTER BRIAN A
SMOOTH PLATE OF ALLOY
NOT YET PERFECTED BY
TODAY'S SCIENCE WITH
CREDOMINESE
SCRIPT ON IT !!



WASTING NO TIME THE FIVE SPECULATORS SET THEMSELVES TO THE TASK OF UNCOVERING THE STRANGE GLEAMING METAL!

PROFESSOR THE EXPLOSIVES I BROUGHT ALONG MIGHT MAKE THIS A LITTLE EASIER

BILL, THE REASON I DIDN'T SUGGEST THAT, IS BECAUSE I DON'T WANT TO DAMAGE THIS ARTIFACT/BUT FROM WHAT I CAN SEE IT'S ACTUALLY A HUGE DOOR!

A DOOR EH? WELL I BETTER TAKE OUT THE FLASHLIGHT.

FORGET THE FLASHLIGHT AND GRAB A SHOVEL!

WOW! I WONDER WHAT'S INSIDE?!

PROFESSOR NOW THAT WE'VE FOUND THIS! THAT PIECE OF SCROLL YOU FOUND IN THE GRAND CANYON WILL PROBABLY BE PRICELESS!

Smith

One half hour later after clearing the ground and rock from around the doorway, the five explorers find that they can't pry open the Door!

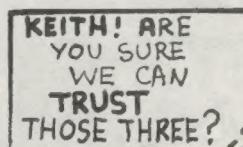


I SET IT AND IT'S GOING TO EXPLODE IN TWO MINUTES TAKE COVER!!

I'M WAY AHEAD OF YOU RYAN!



... TWO MINUTES LATER ...



Taylor





ER...LET'S CONTINUE TO EXPLORE! AFTER THAT EVENT I CAN'T WAIT TO SEE WHAT ELSE IS IN HERE!

AMAZING IT'S REALLY REAL!



HAHA HAH! RYAN'S JUST GREEDIER THAN THE REST OF US THREE!

WELL I DON'T CARE HOW GREEDY HE IS I'M STILL GETTING MY THIRD!

I KNEW IT!! I KNEW THEY COULDN'T BE TRUSTED! I'VE GOT TO WARN KEITH !!

HURRY WITH THE FLASHLIGHT I SEEM TO HAVE FOUND SOMETHING ELSE!! LOOKS LIKE A CIRCLE WITH A POLE IN THE CENTER OF IT !!

IT SAYS IT'S A LIFE EXTENDER AND THAT BY SPEAKING FROM...

THESE SYMBOLS ON THE...

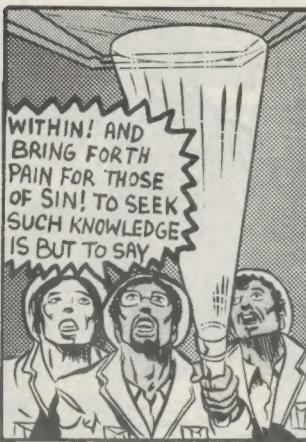
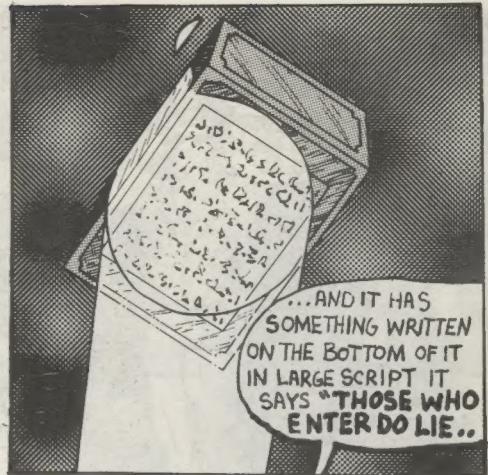
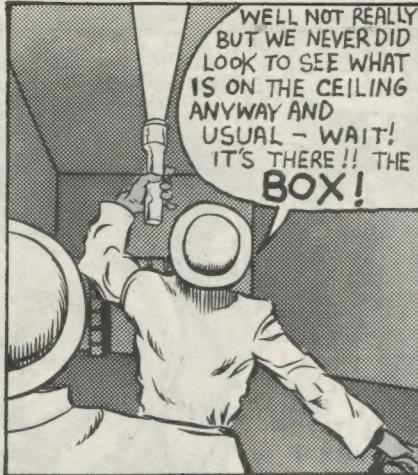


Taylor

..GROUND AND Y TOUCHING THIS POLE YOU WALKING TO YOUR LEFT, RIGHT WHILE... IT SUPPOSELY DRAWS ITS MAGICAL POWER FROM A BOX FLOATING NEAR THE CEILING...

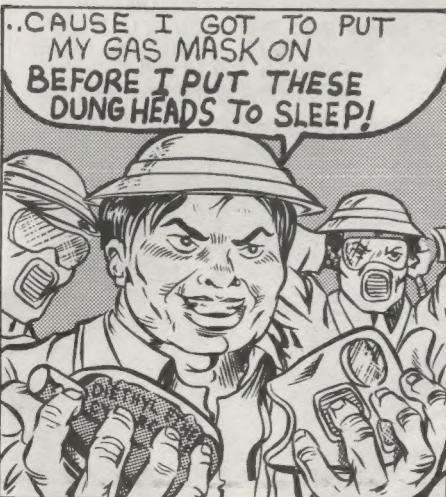
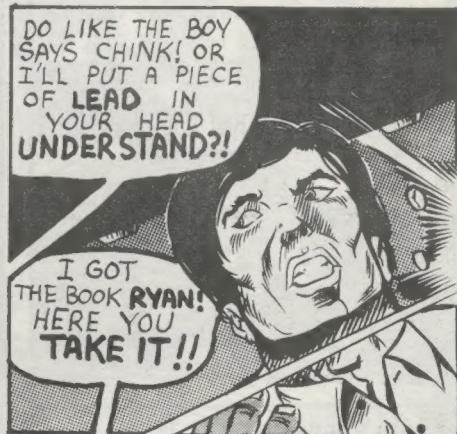
PROF. EDDRICKS! YOU DON'T THINK THAT THIS STUPID STICK IN THE GROUND THING ACTUALLY WORKS DO YOU?





Herring





THANK YOU EDDRICKS!
THANK YOU FOR MAKING
THE THREE OF
US FILTHY
RICH!!

COUGH
COUGH AGRRG!
COUGH R-RYAN
COME BACK!! DON'T
DO THIS! THIS
DISCOVERY IS
BEYOND JUST
MONETARY
GAAAAAAINN

It is 150 minutes later that consciousness returns to Keith Eddricks a consciousness that may well have been in VAIN!!

OHH I KNEW IT WAS TOO GOOD TO BE TRUE! IT WAS ALL A (YAWN) DREAM I GUESS I SHOULD WAIT A MINUTE!!

THIS IS REAL AND WHAT'S MORE BRIAN'S GONE! THE GAS MUST HAVE WORE OFF OF HIM SOONER OR?

BRIAN!
BRIAN!

I'M OKAY!
KEITH BUT WE'RE TRAPPED!

Smith

THEY SEALED OFF THE ENTRANCE! I LOOKED ALL THROUGH THIS PLACE FOR ANOTHER WAY OUT BUT THERE ISN'T ANY! I COULD'NT FIND ANY MORE ARTIFACTS EITHER!

WELL BRIAN WE MAY VERY WELL DIE IN HERE THEN 'CAUSE THE OXYGEN IS RUNNING OUT!!

BUT WE'VE GOT ONE CHANCE! ONE PAGE WAS NOT SEWN INTO THE SCROLL BOOK! BUT I'LL NEED ENOUGH LIGHT TO DECODIFY IT!

YEAH BUT THOSE MATCHES WILL JUST USE UP OUR AIR FASTER! IF ONLY THEY HADN'T TAKEN THE FLASHLIGHT WITH THEM



IF ONLY I HADN'T BEEN
SO TRUSTING! BUT I
GUESS I BETTER START
FIGURING THIS OUT

WE'RE LUCKY RYAN
DIDN'T GET THIS PAGE
TOO! DO YOU THINK
IT'LL OPEN SOME
SECRET EXIT
OR
SOMETHING?

The question goes unanswered as
Keith Eddricks begins the task of
translating the ancient literature. Then
Finally one hour later with only 15
minutes of oxygen left he succeeds....

...THOSE WHO HARM
CAN NOW BE FREED!
ONLY HE WHO'S EQUAL
THESE ONES MIGHT
HEED...

KEITH! WE'RE
ALMOST OUT
OF (GASP)
AIR!!!

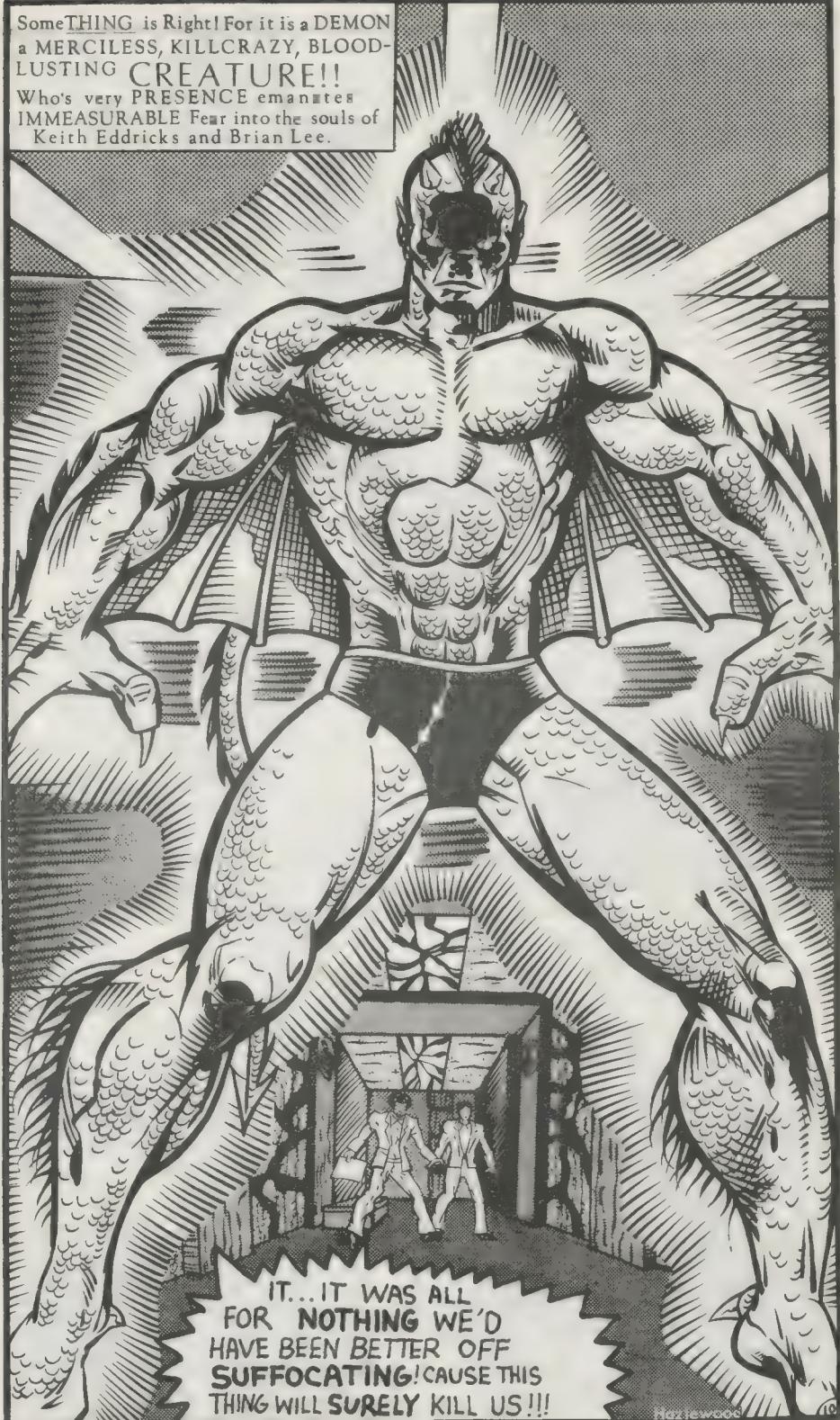
TO PUT AND
TO END THEIR
DESTRUCTIVE
CAUSE FROM THE
PITS OF CREDOM
ENTER
LEATROSAED!!
DAMMIT! THE
ONLY THING APPEARING
IS A SMALL WHIRLWIND!
WE'VE GOT TO GET MORE THAN THIS

And more than that they
do, as the whirlwind GROWS
Larger and LARGER, Whirl-
ing Faster and FASTER
Until SUDDENLY It Darts
Away From THEM AND
BEGINS TO GROW
Dark at it's CENTER!

LOOK!
SOMETHING
SEEMS TO BE
MATERIALIZING
INSIDE OF
THAT
THING!

Taylor

Some THING is Right! For it is a DEMON
a MERCILESS, KILLCRAZY, BLOOD-
LUSTING CREATURE!!
Who's very PRESENCE emanates
IMMEASURABLE Fear into the souls of
Keith Eddicks and Brian Lee.

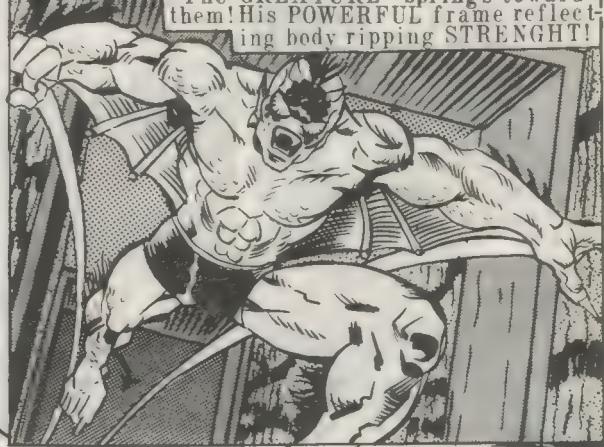


IT... IT WAS ALL
FOR NOTHING WE'D
HAVE BEEN BETTER OFF
SUFFOCATING! CAUSE THIS
THING WILL SURELY KILL US!!!

I SHOULD HAVE LISTENED TO YOU DAMMIT! NOW BECAUSE OF ME THOSE PETTY FOOLS WILL BE RICH WHILE WE'LL BE DEAD!!



. . . Suddenly as if in answer to those very words "The CREATURE" springs toward them! His POWERFUL frame reflecting body rippling STRENGTH!



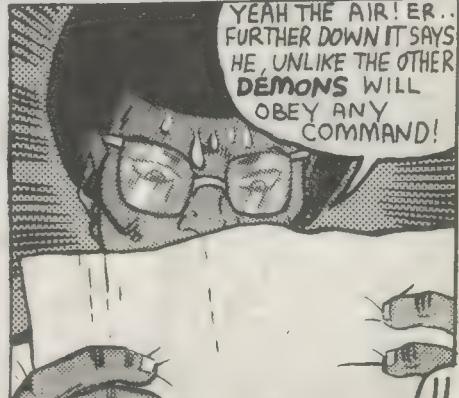
N-NO ST-STAY BACK! KEEP AWAY FROM US!!!



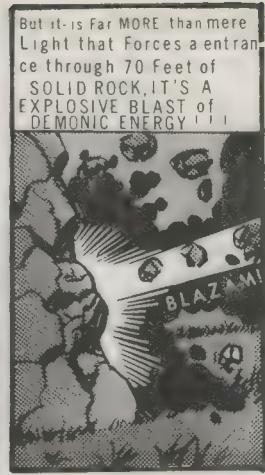
A COMMAND IS GIVEN!
and Surprisingly a Command is OBEYED!



HE'S DOING IT!
HE'S KEEPING BACK!



Taylor



SHHH IT! LEATROSAED
LEATROSAED ENTERED
HERE! RETURN!

BACK
NOW!
DEASORTAEL

HE'S
VANISHING
JUST IN
TIME!

THIS IS SO UNBELIEVABLE!
WE'VE GOT TO REPORT
THIS TO SOME AUTHORITIES
CAUSE, CHARLES, WILLIAM
AND RYAN COULD DESTROY
THE WORLD WITH THOSE KIND
OF CREATURES!!!!

And so they started back to
the city in the same car
they arrived in, with a
CREDOMINUS Scroll! Man-
kind's only defense against the



possible evil Demons!
Meanwhile with Charles,
Ryan, and William....

LOOK RYAN EVEN THOUGH
CHARLES DID SHOW ME
THAT OLD ANCIENT COIN
YOU REALLY DON'T THINK
I BELIEVED ALL OF WHAT
YOU TOLD ME DO
YOU???

WELL DAMMIT I'LL SHOW Y-YOU
THEN, NOW THE GOOD PROFESSOR
NEVER DID TEACH ME HOW TO
TRANSLATE ALL OF THIS ANCIENT
SCRAWL BUT BACK WHEN HE FIRST
DISCOVERED THE ZOKATONIAN
CIVILIZATION HE TAUGHT ME
HOW TO PRONOUNCE EACH LETTER
SYMBOL SO I
SHOULD BE ABLE
TO MAKE SOME
KIND OF
RICHES APPEAR!

HA HA I DON'T
BELIEVE IT! HA HA
HAH! YOU MEAN IT!
YOU ACTUALLY THINK
THAT BY READING FROM
THAT OLD SCROLL...



POUR WILLIAM ANOTHER
GLASS OF WINE MARGARET
DEAR.. WE'VE JUST MADE
THE MOST SPECTACULAR
BUSINESS FIND SINCE...



...THAT A CHEST OF MONEY IS GOING TO APPEAR IN FRONT OF YOU! WELL HAHA I THINK THE PROFESSOR PULLED A FASTONE ON YOU GUYS AND YOU STILL DON'T KNOW IT!!

WELL IF HE DID THAT'S THE LAST ONE HE'LL EVER PULL! NOW QUIET I'M GOING TO READ OUT THE SOUNDS FROM THIS PAGE...



ROK ZON TAK REYON E DEMI LOKTI LON SLEGROETOTH!!! THE FLOOR'S STARTING TO SHINE AND...NO JEWELS OR MONEY DAMN!

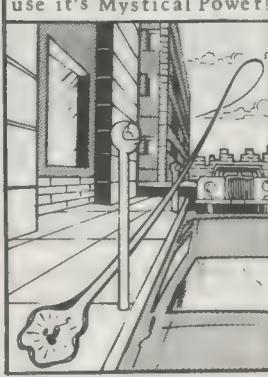
NO MONEY BUT YOU DID MAKE SOMETHING APPEAR A WEIRD LOOKING SLUG! AND THAT MEANS YOU WEREN'T KIDDING!!!



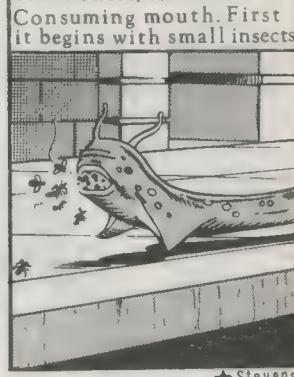
Suddenly the small slug thing LEAPS through a window leaving Ryan Mason apprehensive!



Zooming down to a city sidewalk the demon Slegroetoth begins to use it's Mystical Power!



The power to draw any living thing except it's summoners, into it's ever Consuming mouth. First it begins with small insects



★ Stevens

Then, growing Larger it Devours small animals turning their flesh and bone into INSTANT vitamin and protein for it's hungry and Multiply cells!!



It's almost Magetic suction power makes it's prey Weightless so that in a mere 70 minutes what was once just a slug out of the distant past, is now a Towering Monster of DESTRUCTION adding now Human lives to it's Diet!!



It is so GHASTLY a sight to behold that even Ryan Mason the uncaring is HORRIFIED!!

OH RYAN WHAT HAVE YOU DONE THIS IS TERRIBLE!!!



NO NO! I DIDN'T MEAN FOR THIS TO HAPPEN!!

RYAN GET AHOOLD OF YOURSELF MY BOY! WE'VE GOT POWER NOW! POWER TO RULE THIS TOWN BUDDY! NOW JUST GO OVER AND TRY AND GET RID OF THAT THING WHILE I CALL THE TOP CITY OFFICIALS ABOUT SOME DEMANDS



ATTENTION ALL CITIZENS OF THE DOWNTOWN AREA! EVACUATE! EVACUATE! A GIGANTIC DEADLY GASTROPODIC CREATURE IS ATTACKING YOUR AREA! IT HAS A STRANGE SUCTION POWER THAT DEFIES GRAVITY!

THOSE FOOLS THOSE DAMN FOOLS!

THEY'VE UNLEASHED ANOTHER DEMON INTO THE WORLD!

WHY ARE WE STOPPING IN FRONT OF THIS ALLEY KEITH?!? YOU DON'T THINK OUR CREATURE CAN STOP THAT THING DO YOU?

IT'S OUR ONLY CHANCE BRIAN! YOU HEARD THE NEWS! THAT MONSTER HAS ALREADY EATEN EVERYTHING FROM 1ST STREET TO TENTH ON MAIN AND IT'S GETTING BIGGER!



SO HERE GOES... ONE WHO HARMS HAS NOW BEEN FREED ONLY HE WHO'S EQUAL THIS ONE MIGHT HEED! TO PUT TO END ITS DESTRUCTIVE CAUSE



Smith

FROM THE PITTS OF CREDOM ENTER LEATROSAED!! HE'S APPEARING!!... ER LEATROSAED... THERE IS A GIANT DEMON KILLING HUMANS STOP IT!



With those words the POWERFUL form of the CREATURE Springs to the Sky EAGER for DESTRUCTIVE CONFRONTATION.



15

As he instinctively Flies toward his destination
"LEATROSAED" observes how this world has
Changed since he had last roamed it.....



...the population has increased tremendously
and the Creature a Wonder himself is
amazed at technologies turn! BUT all ...



Hazlewood

.thoughts of the past are brought to a SUDDEN STOP! as
Leatrosaed faces a Demon unlike any he's fought before! It's
name? SLEGROETOTH! a being thought of as Legend...



by the CREATURE! a Abomination that DEVOURS WORLDS of LIFE!! A COMMAND
WAS GIVEN! Can the CREATURE Fulfull the Given COMMAND ?! DON'T MISS
THE NEXT SUPER EXCITING ADVENTURE! entitled "Unleashed the
LOKONDRADOX!" NEXT ISSUE COLOR FRONT and BACK COVERS, NEW SIZE , NEAL ADAMS VERSION OF
THE CREATURE!! PLUS MORE PAGES! also on the next page is a typo, should be "Bought"
not brought

LETTERS OF CREDOMMENT

BELLOW:A layout sketch by

GIL KANE



BELLOW: THE ABOVE LAYOUT USED TO PREVIEW ONE OF THE CREATURE'S UPCOMING FOES.....THE PILGROM !!



GIL KANE
Carl Taylor



If... (and I do mean IF) by some miracle I get off my ass and draw a second issue of this book, this will be the letters page; which will be as long as the amount I receive. Also I hope to have in this section one comics pro illoe per issue; (For those who tire of just me all the time) OH And Thanks alot to Doug Hazlewood, Wes Smith, & Dave Stevens, for inking some of the pages & the cover of this book I feel If they were Pros, they'd be among best; infact Stevens has gone professional. Thanks to David Hamilton for helping me to get this book out and also (Cliche) my thanks to all who brought this idea of mine; I appreciate it.

Below (again) are some fanzine friends of mine. Check out their publications; you might like 'em.

...so later wait'ers

In order:

1. Journey into comics #14
Paul Legrazie Jr.
250 garth rd apt 7A3
scarsdale, N.Y. 10583
2. Comic Crusader #17
Martin Greim
BOX 132
dedham, Mass. 02026
3. Starreach
Mike Friedrich
BOX 385
Hayward, CA. 94543
4. Unreal
Rod Snyder
3600 Ripple Creek rd
Austin, TX. 78746
5. Graphic Visions
Chris Lomelino
1843 Brian Lane,
Springfield, Ill. 62703

THREE LAST MINUTE MESSAGES

First: Mike Friedrich is a professional (publisher) friend, (or rather used to be until I lazily didn't finish a story for him.) and not a fanzine friend. Second: Doug Herring is a fantastic inker-artist who has just contacted me, and should get a page or two from this issue to ink. (as I type this, the inside pages haven't been finished yet). The Mighty Comics is another zine I forgot to plug. Number 5 is 75¢ send to: John Floyd, 910 Kenreed Dr. Thomasville, N.C. 27360

**CARL
OMICS**
c/o CARL TAYLOR

TO:

